Appendix B. Vision 2020 Survey Results, 2007

Arlington A Welcoming Community: Your Opinion Counts

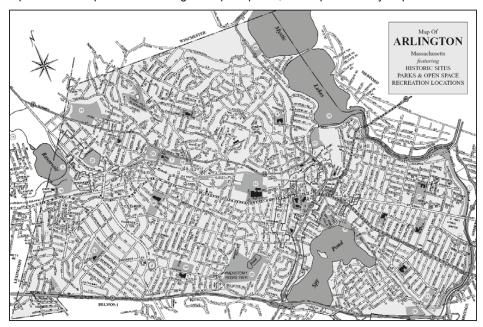


Dear Arlington Residents,

Since 1991, Vision 2020 has used an insert to the Town's Annual Census Mailing to inform you about Arlington and ask your opinion about aspects of life in our town. Once again, we encourage you to share your thoughts about our community. We need your help to guide the Town in updating its Open Space Plan and ensuring that Arlington is a welcoming community. Your opinions do count!

Vision 2020 is a Committee of the Town that works as a partnership of townspeople, Town employees and Town leaders. It is a joint planning process, where active task groups of volunteers work to bring the Town closer to goals established by Town Meeting in 1993. To learn more about Town goals and the work of Vision 2020 for this year, turn the page.

The Town is in the process of updating its Open Space Plan, and you are being asked to provided your input. As you consider your responses to the questions on Arlington's open spaces, the map below may help as a reference.



The map highlights Arlington's open spaces, which are distributed throughout the town. A full version of this map of Arlington, featuring Historic Sites, Parks & Open Spaces and Recreation Locations, is available for purchase at Arlington's Town Hall in the Planning Department and may also be found on-line at the Town website (http://www.arlingtonma.gov).

We are using a new method of tabulating survey results this year. All responses will be scanned and entered electronically into a new software tool. For this reason, it is important that when marking your responses you use only a black ballpoint pen and you fill in the bubbles completely. Please limit comments to the designated area on the last page of the survey, as extraneous marks can cause a survey to be rejected by the automated tool. When all responses have been computed, we will report results to the Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, various committees and the public. All responses received by April 1, 2007 will be included in our report.

Take a few minutes to read through the survey questions inside and share your thoughts with us.

We appreciate your taking the time to do this. Thank you!

IMPORTANT:

- Use <u>only a black ballpoint pen</u> to complete the survey.
- Do not use pencil, felt tip or any other color pen.
- 🔾 Fill in the bubbles completely! Like this: 🗨 Not like this: 💥 💋 🤡

Town Goals, Task Groups and Current Vision 2020 Projects

BUSINESS

Town Goal: "We value Arlington's diverse and accessible mix of merchants and service providers. We will be known for our vibrant, attractive commercial centers supporting the primarily residential and historic character of the Town."

- Researching how Arlington businesses will be affected by our aging population
- · Comparing mutual aid to market-based insurance

COMMUNICATION

Town Goal: "We value public dialogue. Communication and information-sharing build trust. Our goals are true openness and accountability. Arlington will be known as a community that thoughtfully searches beyond divisive issues for the opportunities that bind us together."

Seeking assistance tabulating survey responses

COMMUNITY AND CITIZEN SERVICE

Town Goal: "We value Arlington's geographic neighborhoods, common interest groups, and the sense of community in our Town. We value an active and compassionate citizenry delivering services in our community. We will be known for the vitality of our neighborhoods and as a community of people helping others."

· Looking for help scanning survey responses

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Town Goal: "We value the many opportunities to meet, play, and grow in Arlington while treasuring and preserving our unique historical resources. Our social, cultural, artistic, historic, athletic, recreational, and other community groups strengthen Town life. We will be known for the breadth and richness of our resources and activities available to Arlington citizens."

 Creating a directory and website listing town recreation, arts, and cultural organizations and contact information

DIVERSITY

Town Goal: "We value the diversity of our population. Our Town's mix of ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds, as well as economic and personal circumstances, enriches us. We will be known for the warm welcome and respect we extend to all."

- Helping to make Arlington a welcoming and respectful community
- Working with the Human Rights Commission on a rapid response process
- Participating on the Superintendent of Schools' Diversity Advisory Committee

EDUCATION

Town Goal: "We value learning for all Arlington citizens. We are responsible as a community for educating our youth and providing all ages with opportunities for educational growth. We will be known for demonstrated excellence in public education and our commitment to life-long learning."

Conducting forums on our schools for parents and other community members

ENVIRONMENT

Town Goal: "We value the physical beauty and natural habitats of our Town – parks, ponds and wetlands, dramatic vistas and tree-lined streets – as they contribute to the well-being of our community. Recognizing the fragility of our natural resources, we must ensure that Arlington's residential areas, commercial centers, and infrastructures are developed in harmony with environmental concerns. We will be known for our commitment to the preservation of Arlington's beauty, limited open space and resources, as well as our place in the regional and global community."

- Spy Pond Committee: Planning Third Annual Spy Pond Trails Project at path adjacent to Rte 2 in May, and Spy Pond Splash, a program of events at/on the pond in early Sept. 2007
- Reservoir Committee: Working with the Town on a native landscaping plan for the newly refurbished Reservoir
- Sustainable Arlington: Working with Town Officials and residents to implement the recently adopted Arlington Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP)

FISCAL RESOURCES

Town Goal: "We value Arlington's efficient delivery of public services providing for the common good. The benefits from these services and the responsibility of taxation will be equitably distributed among us. We will be known for our sound fiscal planning and for the thoughtful, open process by which realistic choices are made in our Town."

- Studying / recommending ways to address predicted Town budget shortfall at the end of the Five Year Plan
- . Continuing to encourage transparency in all Town depts

GOVERNANCE

Town Goal: "We value our representative Town Meeting system and the community spirit it fosters. Participatory governance is both responsive and innovative. We will be known as a community where government provides effective and efficient services, insures open twoway communication, promotes the lively exchange of ideas, and encourages active citizen participation."

 Helping to plan and sponsor Candidates' Night 2007 and the Warrant Review for the Spring 2007 Annual Town Meeting

To join a Vision 2020 Task Group, please see the last page

For more information on Vision 2020 or any Task Group: Contact the Arlington Planning Department at (781) 316-3090, Jane Howard at (781) 648-1936 or e-mail jglushko@town.arlington.ma.us; also, visit Arlington's town website at http://www.arlingtonma.gov and Vision 2020's website at http://www.arlington2020.org

The Vision 2020 Standing Committee and Task Group Co-Chairs:

Eugene Benson, Marc Breslow, John Budzyna, Joe Connelly, Bettie Connors, Abigail DuBois, Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitzsimmons, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Clarice Gordon, Kevin Greeley, Jane Howard, Gordon Jamieson, Elizabeth Karpati, Nate Levenson, Joshua Lobel, Susan Lovelace, Leslie Mayer, Sherry Miller, Angela Olszewski, Stephen Ricci, William Shea, Heidi Sheehan, Brian Sullivan, John L. Worden III

Please detach along the perforated line and enclose the survey portion with your Town Census form, or mail it in a separate envelope to Vision 2020, Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476 or drop it in the collection box located in the Town Clerk's Office

Ple	ease	respo	ond b	y fillin	ıg in t	he ap	propr	iate b	ubble								Vi	sion 2	2020 S	urvey	2007
1.	Wh	at is y	our p	recinct	t numb	ber? (This ca	ın be o	btaine	d from	your c	census	s form.))							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	0	0	0	0	0	Ο	0	Ο	0	0	Ο	0	0	Ο	0	0	0	0	0	Ο	0
2.	Ple	ase te	ell us	about y	yourse	elf and	your	house	hold:		0		1		2		ŝ	3	4	4	> 4
	Nui	mber	of adı	ults age	ed 65	or old	er in y	our ho	ouseho	old	0		0		С)	C)	C)	0
	Nui	mber	of adı	ults age	ed 18	to 64 i	in you	r hous	ehold		0		0		С)	C)	()	0
	Nui	mber	of chi	ldren a	iged 1	7 and	under	in ho	useho	ld	0		0		С)	C)	()	0
	Nui	mber	of yea	ars you	ı have	lived	in Arliı	ngton			0		< 5		C)	5 to 1	!5	C)	> 15
	Do	you o	wn oi	rent?							0		Own		С)	Rent				
	Wh	ich of	the fo	ollowin	g best	t desc	ribes y	our h	ousing	J ?	0		Single		С)	2-4 u	nits	()	5 or >
3.	Δrl	inato	n _ A	Welco	mina	Com	munit	v					family								
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		0	L	ibrarie	s, sch	nools a	ınd go	vernm	nent se	ervices	s are a	cces	sible ar	nd we	ll-adm	inistei	red				
		0	٦	here a	are pla	ices w	here p	people	can s	it arou	und ca	sually	/ and ta	alk							
		0	I	/ We f	eel ac	cepte	d														
		0	F	Parks, _I	playgr	ounds	and o	open s	paces	are n	naintai	ned a	and dist	tribute	ed thro	ughou	ut the t	town			
		0	١	Neighb	ors ma	ake ef	forts to	o knov	v and	help e	ach ot	her									
		0	L	ocal m	nedia ((news	paper,	cable	, web	site, e	-lists) l	help l	кеер ре	eople	up-to-	date c	n tow	n hapı	pening	s	
		0	١	Newcor	mers o	can ea	sily fir	nd way	/s to p	articip	ate in	town	life								
		0	٦	Town le	eaders	s and t	he cul	lture o	f the c	ommı	unity p	romo	te fairn	ess a	nd equ	uality					
		0	A	A town	resou	rce di	rectory	, is av	ailable)											
		0	١	oting i	inform	ation i	is eas	y to fir	nd												
		0	F	Reside	nts – r	new ar	nd lon	g-term	ı – fee	I their	experi	ience	s and p	perspe	ectives	are v	/alued				
4	. <u>"</u>	Activa	ıte Ar	lingto	<u>n"</u>											Yes		No	D	on't K	now
		Have	you	been n	nade a								iits & se per (day"?		0		0		0	
	4b.	Meet,	Senior	s Walk t	he Rink	k, Safe F	Routes	to Scho	ols, Fitr	nessgra	m, Tabl	e Tenn	dershey's at the dimore!)			0		0		0	
	4c.	Have	you	•	nbers	of you	ır hou:						ctivate			0		0		0	

					•	Ο	Do not write in this space
<u>Op</u>		<u>Planning</u>					
	open spa improven	n's Open Space Committee prep aces, utilize and maintain our parl ments. The current plan is posted 2007-2012. The following question	k and red d on the	creation resources ar Town website (http://	nd set direction www.arlingto	on for fu onma.go	uture use, maintenance and ov). It is now time to update the
5.	What are	e your <u>three f</u> avorite open spa	ces, pas	ssive parks, or natur	al areas ow	ned by	Arlington? (mark up to three)
	0	Menotomy Rocks Park	0	Great Meadows	0	Re	eservoir Path / Beach
	0	Robbins Farm	0	McClennen Park	0	To	own Hall Gardens
	0	Minuteman Bike Path	0	Spy Pond & Parks	0	Cı	rusher Lot (Ottoson Woods)
	0	Meadowbrook Park	Ο	Mystic Lakes	0	W	indow on the Mystic
	0	Mt. Gilboa	0	Turkey Hill	0	Co	ooke's Hollow
6.	What do	you like about the town resou	rces list	ted above? (mark al	l that apply)		
	0	Natural, wooded open spaces		0	Water views	and/or	access
	0	Community playgrounds / meet	ing spac	ce O	Peaceful, pl	easant,	attractive areas
	0	Mixed use areas for walking, pla	aying	0	Bird/animal	habitats	S
	0	Walkable, accessible areas, op	en to all				
7.	What are	your major concerns regarding	ng the to	own's recreational a	nd natural o	pen sp	paces? (mark all that apply)
	0	Maintenance in general	0	Trash collection		0	Pruning / clearing / mowing
	0	Invasive plants	Ο	Vandalism / graffiti		0	Disturbance of wildlife habitat
	0	Loss of open space	Ο	Accessibility for all		0	Dogs (clean up/ disturb others)
	0	Limits on use	0	Nuisance wildlife		0	Game lines / field markings

Ο

0

Yes

Yes

Ο

0

No

No

0

Ο

No Opinion

No Opinion

8. Do you support the creation of:8a. fenced dog parks in Arlington?

8b. designated off-leash times in specific areas of existing parks?

Public /

9. Does the town have an adequate amount of the following?

	Yes	No	No opinion		Yes	No	No opinion
Children's playgrounds	0	0	0	Tennis courts	0	0	0
Neighborhood parks	0	0	Ο	Ice skating venues	0	0	0
Natural areas/nature trails	0	0	Ο	Dog parks	0	0	0
Team playing fields	0	0	Ο	Community gardens	0	0	0
Outdoor/indoor swimming	0	0	0	Walking/bike trails	0	0	0

10. Funding Open Space Improvements: Select <u>up to five</u> improvements from the following list that you consider important for the Town to pursue. Then identify the way(s) you would fund those improvements.

(For example, if you feel it's important to have more community gardens in Arlington, do you think that the money to fund them should come from your taxes? From a charge levied on each gardener (user fee)? From the sale of advertising space in the garden? From pursuing grants or other State or Federal funding opportunities? Or, from a collaboration between individuals / business donations and public money?)

Local

State /

		List of Potential Improvements	Taxes	Fees	Federal	Advertising	Private
	0	more activity areas for teens	0	0	0	0	0
ш	0	2. more children's playgrounds	0	0	0	0	0
the	0	3. more opportunities for adult sports	0	0	0	0	0
for	0	4. more community gardens	0	0	0	0	0
pay	0	5. better ice skating facilities	0	0	0	0	0
Select up to 5 and how to pay for them	0	6. more indoor sports/recreation facilities	Ο	Ο	0	0	Ο
hon	0	7. more neighborhood parks	0	Ο	0	0	Ο
pu	0	8. better park / playground maintenance	0	Ο	0	0	Ο
5 a	0	9. more playing fields for team sports	0	Ο	0	0	Ο
o to	0	10. better playing field maintenance	0	0	0	0	0
t n	0	11. more public art displayed in parks	0	0	0	0	0
elec	0	12. public swimming pool	0	0	0	0	0
S	0	13. more small landscaped areas	0	0	0	0	0
	0	14. more walking/nature trails	0	0	0	0	0
	0	15. more wooded natural areas	0	0	0	0	0

As we develop the Town's Open Space Plan for 2007-2012, watch for information about public meetings and other ways to share your ideas with the Open Space Committee.

The first public meeting will be held on Monday, February 12th from 7-9pm in the Town Hall Auditorium. Join us!

nteer to Help				0	Do	not write in this space
please select your task of	group pre	ference(s) from	the list be	elow. A leader of the group		
Culture & Recreation	0	Business	0	Environment – Reservoir	0	Fiscal Resources
Communication	0	Diversity	0	Environment – Spy Pond	0	Governance
Community/Citizen Service	Ο	Education	0	Environment – Sustainable Arlington	?	
oughts that you would like to shaw survey tool:	re about	the goals and o	lirection c	of the Town for its future, an	d your fe	
	please select your task of (Selection) Culture & Recreation Communication Community/Citizen Service To volunteer for a (Include) (Include) Dispute the service of the	If you would like to work with other please select your task group pre (See Town G Culture & Recreation O Communication O To volunteer for a Vision 20 (Include your Name) (Include your Name) Community / Suggestions: Please give us bughts that you would like to share about we survey tool:	If you would like to work with others for Arlington please select your task group preference(s) from (See Town Goals page for inf) Culture & Recreation	If you would like to work with others for Arlington's future please select your task group preference(s) from the list by (See Town Goals page for information Culture & Recreation	If you would like to work with others for Arlington's future by joining any Vision 2020 please select your task group preference(s) from the list below. A leader of the group (See Town Goals page for information about Vision 2020 projects) Culture & Recreation	If you would like to work with others for Arlington's future by joining any Vision 2020 Task Graplease select your task group preference(s) from the list below. A leader of the group will continuous (See Town Goals page for information about Vision 2020 projects) Culture & Recreation



To: Town Meeting Members and Town Officials

From: Vision 2020 Standing Committee and Task Group Chairs

Co-Chairs: Jo-Martha Glushko, Jane Howard and Leslie Mayer

Nancy Barry, Eugene Benson, Marc Breslow, John Budzyna, Joe Connelly, Bettie Connors, Abigail DuBois, Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitzsimmons, Jacob Friis, Sean Garballey, Clarice Gordon, Kevin Greeley, Gordon Jamieson, Elizabeth Karpati, Nate Levenson, Joshua Lobel, Susan Lovelace, Cheryl Miller, Angela Olszewski, Stephen Ricci, William Shea, Heidi Sheehan, Brian Sullivan, and John L. Worden. III

Date: May 14, 2007

Subject: The Vision 2020 Report to The 2007 Annual Town Meeting

The Vision 2020 Standing Committee and its Task Groups are pleased to present the following report covering Vision 2020 projects and activities for Calendar Year 2006 as well as its 2007 town-wide household survey. The report can be found in the three areas listed below:

- The first, located in the Community Development section of the Town's 2006 Annual Report and soon available to Town Meeting, outlines the evolution of Vision 2020 over its almost 17 year existence, as well as significant accomplishments during 2006 by its dedicated Task Groups and Standing Committee the true work engines of this organization;
- The second, is a summary and analysis of the 3394 household responses received by April 1, 2007 to Vision 2020's Survey accompanying the Town's 2007 Annual Census Mailing, which largely focused on issues of Open Space (including parks and recreation) in Arlington as well as Arlington as a Welcoming Community. It is presented on pages 2-5 of this report. Information gleaned from these responses will help the Town update its Open Space Plan.

Vision 2020 is most grateful to these 3394 households for their responses which have been scanned and entered electronically into a new software tool simplifying recording and analysis. About 900 comments and suggestions were received as well, some taking up a few lines and others a whole page. All have been recorded and categorized, and will be shared with the appropriate Town departments and committees. When complete, the entire 2007 survey report will be available on the Town's web site.

• The third is included by reference here to Article 71, of this 2007 Annual Town Meeting, RESOLUTION /SUSTAINABILITY / ACTION PLAN, and is listed on pages 30-32 of the Board of Selectmen's Report. It was inserted to the Town Warrant by the Board at the request of the Vision 2020 Environment Task Group's Sustainable Arlington Committee and asks Town Meeting to adopt the Arlington Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP) Part 1. The Plan can be found in its entirety on the web at www sustainable arlington.org

Vision 2020 is truly appreciative of the hundreds of generous townspeople who have participated in its efforts to assist the Town in striving to accomplish its Goals, adopted as bylaw by the Annual Town Meeting in1993.

- 1 -

2007 Vision 2020 Survey Report Based on 3394 Arlington Household Responses by April 1, 2007

1. The number of respondents from each precinct:

Pct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Blank
#	101	150	127	152	132	147	129	183	127	183	133	174	132	155	145	164	118	113	164	124	167	374
%	3.0	4.4	3.7	4.5	3.9	4.3	3.8	5.4	3.7	5.4	3.9	5.1	3.9	4.6	4.3	4.8	3.5	3.3	4.8	3.7	4.9	11.0

2. Respondent's household demographic data (4 tables):

		0	1	2	3	4	>4	Blank
Adults aged 65 or older :	#	2225	415	332	5	4	2	411
	%	65.56	12.23	9.78	0.15	0.12	0.06	12.11
Adults aged 18 to 64:	#	398	729	1700	226	72	17	252
	%	11.73	21.48	50.09	6.66	2.12	0.50	7.42
Children 17 and under	#	1800	510	512	95	12	2	459
	%	53.03	15.03	15.20	2.80	0.35	0.06	13.52

Number of years in Arlington		< 5	5 to 15	>15	Blank
	#	841	979	1371	203
	%	24.78	28.85	40.39	5.98

Own or rent		Own	Rent	Blank
	#	2464	802	128
	%	72.60	23.63	3.77

Housing description		Single	2 to 4 units	5 or >	Blank
	#	1841	1075	329	149
	%	54.24	31.67	9.69	4.39

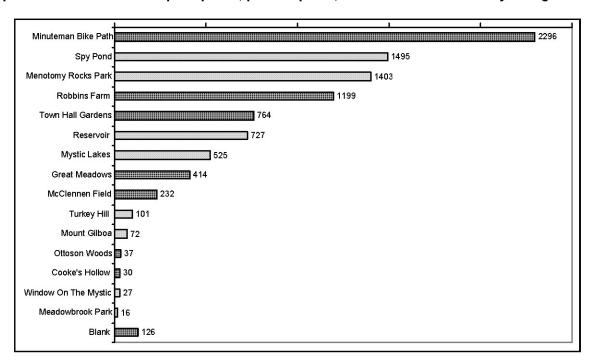
3. Respondents' choices of statements which best describe Arlington as a welcoming and respectful community:

2397	Libraries, schools and government services are accessible and well-administered
1754	There are places where people can sit around casually and talk
2184	I / We feel accepted
2256	Parks, playgrounds and open spaces are maintained and distributed throughout the town
1546	Neighbors make efforts to know and help each other
1838	Local media (newspaper, cable, website, e-lists) help keep people up-to-date on town happenings
1142	Newcomers can easily find ways to participate in town life
1127	Town leaders and the culture of the community promote fairness and equality
1132	A town resource directory is available
1536	Voting information is easy to find
937	Residents – new and long-term – feel their experiences and perspectives are valued
207	Blank

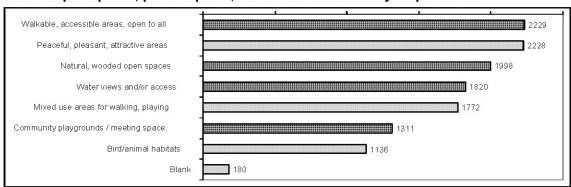
4. "Activate Arlington"

		Yes	No	Don't Know	Blank
4a. Aware of message	#	742	2235	262	155
	%	21.85	65.85	7.72	4.57
4b. Heard of "Activate Arlington"	#	607	2489	157	141
	%	17.88	73.34	4.63	4.15
4c. Participated in"ActivateArlington"	#	365	2793	103	133
	%	10.75	82.29	3.03	3.92

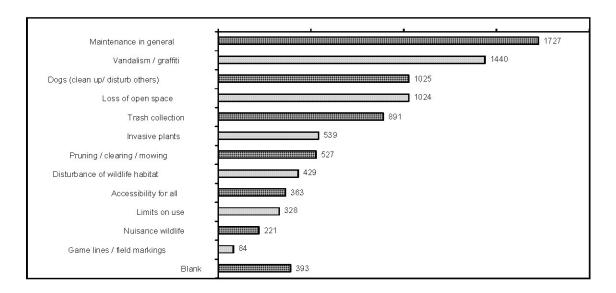
5. Respondents' three favorite open spaces, passive parks, or natural areas owned by Arlington:



6. Features of open spaces, passive parks, or natural areas liked by respondents:



7. Respondents' major concerns regarding the town's recreational and natural open spaces



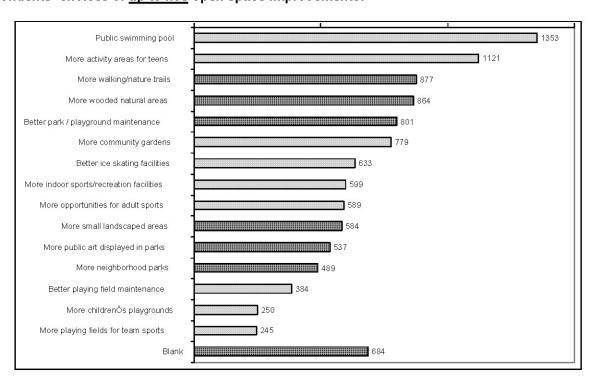
8. Respondents' support for dog parks and off-leash times:

		Yes	No	Don't Know	Blank
8a. Fenced dog parks in Arlington?	#	1755	696	824	119
	%	51.71	20.51	24.28	3.51
8b. Designated off-leash times in	#	1356	1266	647	125
specific areas of existing parks?	%	39.95	37.30	19.06	3.68

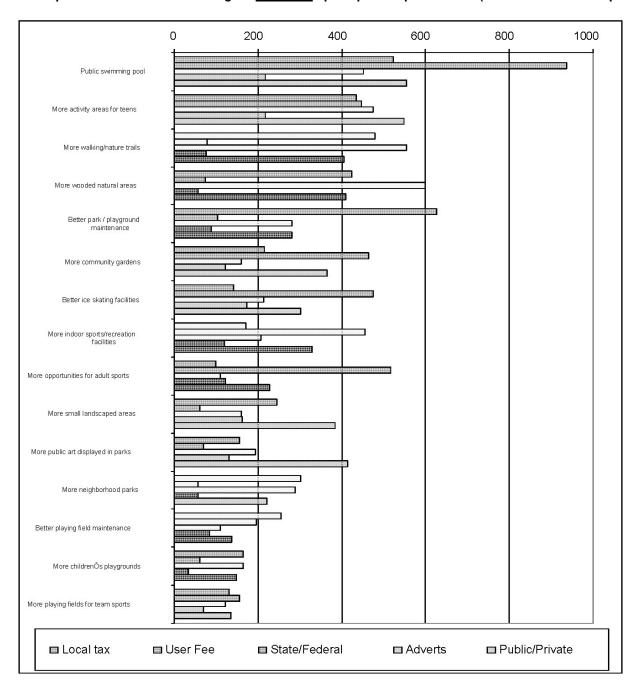
9. Respondents' views on adequate amount of the number of recreation facilities:

•		Adequate	Inadequate	Don't Know	Blank
Outdoor/indoor swimming	#	595	1740	843	216
-	%	17.53	51.27	24.84	6.36
Community gardens	#	650	1208	1226	310
	%	19.15	35.59	36.12	9.13
Natural areas/nature trails	#	1618	1077	410	289
	%	47.67	31.73	12.08	8.52
Dog parks	#	542	1022	1528	302
	%	15.97	30.11	45.02	8.90
Tennis courts	#	1011	703	1387	293
	%	29.79	20.71	40.87	8.63
Ice skating venues	#	1262	682	1139	311
	%	37.18	20.09	33.56	9.16
Neighborhood parks	#	2081	651	400	262
	%	51.31	19.18	11.79	7.72
Walking/bike trails	#	2414	540	205	235
	%	71.13	15.91	6.04	6.92
Team playing fields	#	1730	364	1030	270
	%	50.97	10.72	30.35	7.96
Children's playgrounds	#	2191	226	755	222
	%	64.56	6.66	22.25	6.54

10. Respondents' choices of <u>up to five</u> open space improvements:



10. Respondents' choices of funding for <u>up to five</u> open space improvements (2870 households responding):



Interest in Vision 2020 Task Groups:

55	Culture & Recreation	34	Diversity	76	Environment Sus Arlington
20	Communication	48	Education	11	Fiscal Resources
33	Community & Citizen Service	32	Environment – Reservoir	7	Governance
27	Business	44	Environment – Spy Pond		

5